

hope will see the base of the mountains  
in their place. As to the men ladies they  
cant but enjoy even this that come to pass  
and everything they will see.

The advantage of going in this way would  
be that we start north and go northwardly  
with the warm weather.

If desirable there would be no great  
difficulty in going on to Asheville & thence  
to Waynesville and Webster. Either arrangement  
will suit me perfectly. (By the way I got  
a circular from Mr. Haupt of the Mountain  
Lake House, Salt Pond Mt. Did You?) An  
excursion might be made to Mt. Pisgah &  
from there to Asheville by another route. But  
this perhaps would hardly pay; I see no other  
way of varying the route back from Webster to  
Asheville.

It might be best as you say to make a  
new excursion from Marion or Morgantown to

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St. Sea St. Mass.

I am delighted  
with your letter just received and  
much tickled with Cowles! He will  
be a good help to us but your plan  
is about the thing and very much  
what I had been thinking of.

Our salient points are clearly Lin-  
colton, Marion, the gorge of the  
Linville, and the Roan. Between these  
any excursions that we can easily  
make on the flanks or to the summits  
of the mountains, (such as Table Rock, Hawks  
bill etc.) and, after the Roan, anything  
northward in Va. at the New River White  
and the Salt Pond will make a very good  
wind-up. I should propose that we  
do not hurry too much and make a  
point of resting on Sunday. But in this

and all other points, I shall be guided by  
the desires of the party; and I think having  
mapped out the general plan we can  
arrange the minor points, as we go along.  
I have no particular desire at this  
time to go South and in fact on con-  
sideration would rather spend the time  
I may have in the mountains.

Newton seems to be some miles from  
the R.R. but we might count it 40 hours  
travelling continuously to get there from  
Boston. This could be divided up to suit  
Mr. Gray's convenience. It will take at  
least two days to make the excursion to  
Lincolnton & back especially if we take dif-  
ferent roads going & coming which I highly  
approve of. It had better count on time  
from Newton and call it three days to  
Maine <sup>via Lincolnton</sup>. Allowing a day for Montic and say  
two more for Swanton Gap &c. you will  
have used up one week. Then it would  
hardly take you less than another to get

to the Home by way of Circle Rock and  
Deep Gap &c. if (you choose). I would like  
to spend some time on the Home and  
go on horseback or afoot around the crest  
of the ridge to the Yellow Mts. &c. This  
would, we will say, make up three weeks  
and another could be well put in in  
getting to and visiting the New Town White  
&c. if desired. Here is where it seems to  
me that Cowles would be useful.

It will be most pleasant and just  
the thing to have your brother-in-law and  
your niece go along, and they ought to  
join us at least before we go up the  
Linnville, which locality, Milcox, a good ob-  
server and volcanic traveller, declares to  
be the grandest east of the Rocky Mountains.  
By the maps there is apparently a wagon road  
leading directly up it. But it may be well  
to think about having saddle horses also.  
I have not a doubt ~~but~~ that Mr. Gray will  
get a grand suff. of rough riding and I

the Linville falls and go on to all Rock  
which is ~~over~~ 15 miles from Morgantown &  
then turn back to Linville and then take  
the road to North Cove and go from there direct  
to Roan Mts. I make it about 25 miles from  
North Cove to Bakersville. I would take an  
early start and a long day to make it. But  
we should go under the very shadow of  
the Black Mts. (at least in the afternoon) & if the  
weather was fine would doubtless have grand  
scenery. Botanically I do not suppose the  
Blue Ridge above the Sandfathers to be  
as interesting as the country just east of  
the Black and <sup>that</sup> about the Roan and the  
Linville. But I find the maps differ  
in some respects and I do not suppose  
we can decide the minor points until  
on the ground.

Our May R.R. Guide will soon be out  
and we can then tell about trains & train tables.

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I did not mention the proposed time  
of starting. This, we can determine here  
in due time. As is Mr. Redfield, I  
know that he would like to go but is  
doubtful about the propriety of being so  
far away from home in which Mrs. Red-  
field's mother remains in the condition  
she is in at present; and in addition to  
this, thinks that Mr. Whitney needs re-  
creation more than he does. I have not  
seen him very lately, but will before  
long and will speak to him about his  
prospects.

I return Corvax's letter.

Ever truly  
Yours,  
J. M. Ault

My Warm Springs Elephantopus has the  
aspect of *E. undatus* but is softly villous and  
with the pappus like that of *E. Caroliniana*  
which also grew in same locality.